

REMARKS

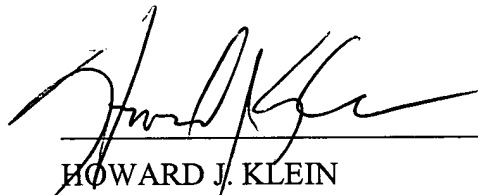
This preliminary amendment is submitted for the following reasons:

1. To present the necessary cross-references, in the specification, to the parent International application, of which the present application is a continuation, and to the US non-provisional application, the benefit of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119(e);
2. To provide appropriate headings in the specification;
3. To amend the claims to remove improper multiple dependencies, to comply with proper Markush Group format, and to correct other minor informalities without affecting the scope of the claims; and
4. To provide an Abstract.

No new matter has been added.

Expeditious examination of the application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HOWARD J. KLEIN  
Registration No. 28,727

Date: May 19, 2004

Klein, O'Neill & Singh, LLP (Customer No.: 22145)  
2 Park Plaza, Suite 510  
Irvine CA 92614  
Tel: (949) 955-1920  
Fax: (949) 955 1921  
E-mail: hjklein@koslaw.com

Attorney Docket No. 606-50-PCT-CON